

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes - Final
April 24, 2007

In Attendance: Sheri Baron, Marlissa Briggett, Christine Carney, Vita Cohen, Joseph Curro, Mahendra Desai, Jorge Loayza, A. Nick Minton, Nancy Rhoads, Marlene Schultz, Bill Shea, Nancy Sweeney

Absent: Christine Deshler

Citizen's Open Forum – Cynthia Mesh came tonight to discuss possible ways we might work with an East Arlington group in regard to the recent hate mail received by some town officials.

Review of March Minutes - approved

No Place For Hate – Marlene Schultz, Bill Shea and Joe Curro attended the last meeting and reported that there was an endorsement of the program in principle several months ago but no formal resolution from the Selectmen as yet – the steering committee is still working to get this program organized and off the ground - Joe also discussed a response he made to a recent letter to the editor in the Advocate –

Recent Hate Mail Incident – after a very lengthy discussion of the recent anti-Semitic incidents in town - it was decided that the commission will go forward with Joe Curro's 'statement of concern' requesting signatures and funds for an ad with names to be placed in the Advocate asap – he will discuss financial part of it with Christine Connolly and will also place the petition on the town website – a target for the May 10th edition has been set – Joe Curro expressed his gratitude to the commissioners for their support.

MAHRC – Nancy Sweeney discussed a meeting she attended in Medford and how informative it was and said they are held each month on the second Friday and all are welcome to attend. The next meeting is May 11th.

Diversity Training – the EMI interview was tonight previous to HRC regular meeting – there will be more discussion after the final interview with Amber Meyers on May 10th at the Whittemore Robbins House at 7:30pm.

Incidents and Complaints -

Joe Curro reported that the phone complaint he received regarding 'poor treatment at work' was discussed with the complainant and resulted to be out of AHRC jurisdiction.

Bill Shea, Marlissa Briggett, Marlene Schultz and Joe Curro discussed Brackett newsletter complaint – decision for subcommittee to meet with complainant then the commission will decide what to do - paperwork will be mailed to all members asap.

Subcommittee Reports -

Dialogue – Dialogue subcommittee agreed to meet at 7pm on May 10 at Robbins House – The Special Education Panel Discussion will be held on Thursday, May 24th at 7:30pm at the Community Safety Building. Kathleen Fraser, Sean Garbelley, Nate Levenson, Trish Orlovsky and Barbara Tilson make up the panel.

Policies and Procedures - none at this time

Schools – all who attended the recent Diversity Day were pleased with the program. Copy of Joe Curro report will be inserted in next mailing.
Motion to accept report granted.

Rapid Response/Publicity – Sheri Baron has requested e-mail addresses be added to the listing for APD –

Other Business -

Joe Curro shared a letter of thanks to the Finance Committee and asked for help in posting.

The committee thanked our staff assistant for her ongoing service.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday, May 17th** at the Jefferson Cutter House at 8:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 10:07pm.

Prepared and submitted by:

Marylynn Carnell

Staff Assistant